I Created a Monster!

Objectives:

* Demonstrate understanding of evolution through creation of an organism
* Create a visual presentation of the evolution of the created organism
* Share the visual presentation with the class

Directions:

You may work by yourself or with a partner to design an original organism and describe its evolution over time. The organism may be land based, aquatic, or both. It can be a bacteria or multi-celled organism, however bacteria will be harder and may require outside research. You may create a hybrid of existing organisms or start from scratch, but you cannot use something that we know about. One of the most important things you must do is giving it a name. You will be demonstrating your knowledge of evolution by:

* Using at least 2 kinds of selection
* Showing conditions of equilibrium
* Using at least 1 type of isolation creating 2 species

Project:

How do you do that you ask? You will create a photo time-line of your organism. There must be at least 6 stages to the evolution. In other words you will have at least 6 pictures. Each picture will be the next step of the organism’s evolution. In order to evolve there needs to be a change of conditions. That can be a change in food source, inclusion of a predator, changing environment, climate change, drought, and many many other things. **Your organism MUST experience an extreme change at least once**. Remember the best specialization comes from the most extreme circumstances. This needs to be in color so I can appreciate the true beauty of your organism. (Note you will be graded on effort not ability) The pictures must include a caption describing (this can be printed off separately):

* current conditions/environment and why they fit the organism
* how this organism has changed/evolved
* what caused the change
* what the organism eats and what eats it (if anything)

I want you to be creative so think of things like defensive mechanisms (the biggest is not always the best), advantages of its surroundings, and things that would help an organism to survive extreme climate change. After they are completed we will share our organisms with the class. The final form of the organism will be displayed anonymously and judged on certain categories. Your organism must apply to one of the following categories:

* Best Survivability/Adaptability
* Best Predator
* Best Defensive Mechanism
* Most Unlikely to Eat

One organism is *highly* unlikely to be all of these, so one organism can only win one time. So that means make your organism more specialized for the category you want to go for! After all of them are judged each person will present the photo time-line of the organism to the class.